

# Daily Digest

## HIGHLIGHTS

See Résumé of Congressional Activity.

## Senate

### Chamber Action

**Routine Proceedings, pages S1469–S1543**

**Measures Introduced:** Seventeen bills and six resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 471–487, S. Res. 64–68, and S. Con. Res. 8. **Pages S1521–22**

#### Measures Reported:

S. Res. 64, authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Foreign Relations. **Page S1521**

#### Measures Passed:

**Fair Minimum Wage:** By 94 yeas to 3 nays (Vote No. 42), Senate passed H.R. 2, to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide for an increase in the Federal minimum wage, as amended. **Pages S1483, S1488–S1512**

**Small Business Act and Small Business Investment Act:** Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 434, to provide for an additional temporary extension of programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 through July 31, 2007, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S1539–40, S1543**

Reid (for Kerry/Snowe) Amendment No. 229, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S1543**

**Honoring Reverend Robert F. Drinan, S.J.:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 66, honoring the life, achievement, and distinguished career of the Reverend Robert F. Drinan, S.J. **Pages S1540–41**

**Go Direct Month:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 67, designating March 2007 as “Go Direct Month”. **Pages S1541–42**

**Miss America Organization:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 68, commending the Miss America Organization for its longstanding commitment to quality education and the character of women in the United States. **Page S1542**

**National School Counseling Week:** Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 23, designating the week of February 5 through February 9, 2007, as “National School Counseling Week”, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S1542**

**Honoring the Life of Percy Lavon Julian:** Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 34, honoring the life of Percy Lavon Julian, a pioneer in the field of organic chemistry research and development and the first and only African American chemist to be inducted into the National Academy of Sciences. **Page S1542**

**Iraq Resolution:** Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. Con. Res. 2, expressing the bipartisan resolution on Iraq. **Pages S1512–13**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By a unanimous vote of 97 nays (Vote No. 43), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to close further debate on the resolution. **Page S1512**

**Iraq Sense of Congress—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 470, to express the sense of Congress on Iraq. **Page S1513**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill and, notwithstanding the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, and pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of Thursday, February 1, 2007, a vote on cloture will occur at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, February 5, 2007; and that if cloture is invoked on the motion to proceed to the bill, it be in order to file cloture on the bill before close of business on Tuesday, February 6, 2007. **Page S1513**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill at 4:00 p.m., on Monday, February 5, 2007. **Pages S1542–43**

**Nominations Confirmed:** Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By unanimous vote of 97 yeas (Vote No. EX. 40), Lawrence Joseph O'Neill, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of California. **Pages S1479–82, S1543**

By unanimous vote of 99 yeas (Vote No. EX. 41), Gregory Kent Frizzell, of Oklahoma, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Oklahoma. **Pages S1478–83, S1543**

Valerie L. Baker, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California. **Pages S1479–82, S1543**

Irving A. Williamson, of New York, to be a member of the United States International Trade Commission for the term expiring June 16, 2014. **Pages S1540, S1543**

Dean A. Pinkert, of Virginia, to be a Member of the United States International Trade Commission for the term expiring December 16, 2015. **Pages S1540, S1543**

Michael J. Astrue, of Massachusetts, to be Commissioner of Social Security for a term expiring January 19, 2013. **Pages S1540, S1543**

#### Measures Placed on the Calendar:

**Pages S1470, S1521**

**Executive Communications:** **Page S1521**

**Executive Reports of Committees:** **Page S1521**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S1522–23**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:**  
**Pages S1523–39**

**Additional Statements:** **Pages S1519–21**

**Amendments Submitted:** **Page S1539**

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:** **Page S1539**

**Privileges of the Floor:** **Page S1539**

**Record Votes:** Four record votes were taken today. (Total—43) **Pages S1482, S1483, S1499–S1500, S1512**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 10 a.m., and adjourned at 7:43 p.m., until 2 p.m., on Monday, February 5, 2007. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1543.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### NOMINATION

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Gen. George W. Casey Jr., USA, for reappointment to the grade of general and to be Chief of Staff, United States Army, after the nominee testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

### DEFICIT AND FOREIGN DEBT

*Committee on the Budget:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the current account deficit and the foreign debt of the United States, after receiving testimony from C. Fred Bergsten, and William R. Cline, both of Peterson Institute for International Economics, Washington, D.C.; and David R. Malpass, New York, New York.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on the Budget:* On January 31, 2007, Committee ordered favorably reported an original resolution (S. Res. 52) authorizing expenditures by the Committee and adopted its rules of procedure for the 110th Congress.

### COMMUNICATIONS MARKETPLACE

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine a view from the Federal Communications Commission relating to assessing the communications marketplace, focusing on telecommunications, media, consumer protection, and enhancing public safety, after receiving testimony from Kevin J. Martin, Chairman, and Michael J. Copps, Jonathan S. Adelstein, Deborah Taylor Tate, and Robert M. McDowell, each a Commissioner, all of the Federal Communications Commission.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* On January 31, 2007, Committee ordered favorably reported an original resolution (S. Res. 58) authorizing expenditures by the Committee.

### TRANSPORTATION BIOFUELS

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine accelerated biofuels diversity, focusing on ways home-grown biologically derived fuels can blend into the nation's transportation fuel mix, after receiving testimony from sundry public witnesses.